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FORMER CHICAGO MAN SENTENCED TO 40 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON ON DRUG AND VIOLENT ASSAULT CHARGES

Tampa, FL - U.S. District Judge Steven D. Merryday today sentenced Scott Schweickert, age 41, to 40 years' imprisonment on charges that he conspired to commit a drug facilitated crime and for committing a drug facilitated crime. A jury found Schweickert guilty of those charges on January 19, 2007.

Co-conspirator Steven Lorenzo, age 48, of Tampa, was sentenced on January 27, 2005 to 200 years' imprisonment for knowingly and intentionally distributing "GHB" to nine men without the individuals' knowledge and with the intent to commit a "crime of violence," including sexual assault. According to court documents, the assaults took place from February 2000 to May 2004. A jury convicted Lorenzo on November 10, 2005 after a 13 day trial.

This investigation was conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Tampa Police Department. Also assisting in the investigation was the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), and the Hillsborough County State Attorney's Office. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Anthony Porcelli.